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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Thomas J. Holman et al.

Serial No.:

09/888,920

Examiner: Hayes, Michael J.

Filed:

June 25, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3763

For:

INTEGRAL HUB AND STRAIN RELIEF

Docket No.:

1001.1181102

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

OCT 2 0 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER RETOO

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" having an Express Mail mailing label number of: EV315606965US, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 15th day of October 2003.

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JoAnn Lindman

Dear Sir:

This is a Response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 17, 2003. A restriction was made for claims 1-26, one or more pertaining to Species 1 drawn to Figures 1 and 2, Species 2 drawn to Figures 3, and Species 3 drawn to Figures 4, 5 and 6. Claims 1-26, however, are not pending in the application.

With Applicants' continuation application dated June 25, 2001, Applicants canceled claims 2 - 26 at Item #3 of their transmittal. On November 16, 2001, Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment canceling claim 1 and adding the new claim

set including one (1) independent claim 27 and dependent claims 28 – 40. Accompanying this Response is a copy of the Preliminary Amendment, a copy of the Express Mail Receipt showing a date-in of November 16, 2001, and the postcard receipt showing the date of Receipt as November 16, 2001.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Preliminary Amendment be entered and the examination of the application proceed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. HOLMAN ET AL.

By their Attorney,

Date: 014, 15, 7003

Flerm Mr. Seager, Reg/No. 36,926

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